



Utah School Readiness Board
Meeting Minutes
October 31, 2018

Utah School Readiness Board Members Present

Jim Sorenson, Chairman
Steve Crandall
Tracy Gruber
Gavin Reese
Jennifer Throndsen

Additional Presenters

Gretchen Anderson
Mark Innocenti
Emma Moench

Staff Support

Nune Phillips

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS and ACTION
Welcome and introductions	Jim Sorenson began the meeting with opening remarks and introductions.	
Approval of 9/11/18 conference call minutes		Steve Crandall motioned to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2018 conference call. Gavin Reese seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion approved.
Data presentations, SY 2017-2018	<p>a) High Quality School Readiness (HQSR) Grants</p> <p>Mark Innocenti presented outcome data for students in programs receiving an HQSR Grant in the 2017-2018 school year. The findings were collected using the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT) and the Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) assessments. Mark also shared longitudinal data showing PPVT student outcomes across the four years of the HQSR grants.</p> <p>Emma Moench provided updates on HQSR programs to supplement the student outcome data. She noted overall program improvement over the school year using the benchmarks and assessments used by each program. Also highlighted were some challenges faced by programs, such as absenteeism and staffing changes.</p> <p>b) Pay for Success</p> <p>Mark Innocenti shared data on students in Pay for Success cohorts. The Board noted the differences in the number of students and consistency in enrollment in LEA programs vs. private child care providers. The Board also inquired about potential changes within programs that may have altered the make-up of eligible children,</p>	<p>Tracy Gruber noted that PPVT scores are just one indicator of student success and that other inputs can help provide a more comprehensive picture of student progress, such as PEEP and KEEP scores.</p> <p>Jim Sorenson recommended that time is spent at an upcoming Board meeting educating members on the PEEP and KEEP so that an informed decision can be made on including those assessments to track outcomes in future grant years.</p>

	contributing to changes in the number of kids scoring at or below 70 on the PPVT.	
Pay for Success investor payments	<p>Gretchen Anderson shared the investor payment calculations based on the outcome data, noting that payments for cohorts 2, 3, and 4 total \$910,986 for the last school year.</p> <p>It was noted that the payment formula differs for each cohort due to variations in the variables, cap rate, and weighted pupil unit (WPU).</p>	Steve Crandall made a motion for the Board to approve investor payments totaling \$910,986 for the 2017-2018 school year. Gavin Reese seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion approved.
Program updates, policy issues, and other board business	<p>a) Updates and policy issues</p> <p>Nune Philips provided updates on the HQSR grants and Results-Based Contracts, stating that both programs are underway for the 2018-2019 school year and that baseline PPVT outcomes for the Contracts and additional updates will be presented to the Board at the first 2019 meeting.</p> <p>It was also noted that DWS, OCC is in the process of drafting a scope of work and a grant application for the legislatively-mandated Program Intermediary position.</p> <p>A policy question was posed to the Board on the use of the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS-3) to determine the level of quality in programs. The Board stated that ECERS-3 may be just one indicator of quality and that DWS, OCC should assess which other tools and measurements may be used to gain a better understanding the variation in quality and whether (and to what degree) this can be tied to student outcomes.</p> <p>b) Reporting</p> <p>The Board was asked to provide input on the format, frequency, and content of presentations given at meetings. Suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary that provides a snapshot of program outcomes and trends with an option to review data in greater detail if needed. 	<p>The Board made a policy recommendation that Emma Moench conduct ECERS-3 observations and score programs during this year to establish a baseline for quality scores in current HQSR and Results-Based Contract Programs. At the first meeting of 2019, DWS, OCC will present the ECERS-3 scores to the Board, after which time the Board will determine if a threshold should be established for programs to apply for funds in future grant years. The Board also recommended that in LEA programs, up to 10% of classrooms be observed, with a minimum of two classrooms requiring observation. In private programs, the Board advised that one-third of classrooms are observed. A look-back period of 1 year was also suggested, so that ECERS-3 scores from the last year be used to establish the baseline.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight key findings in a visual format. • At least once per year provide a review of longitudinal program data in addition to the most recent school year data. • A comparison of state level data to provide additional context to understand outcomes, such as how special education rates in funded programs compare to the statewide average. <p>c) Board vacancy</p> <p>Nune Phillips shared an update with the Board regarding the vacancy for a member who has research experience in the area of early childhood development, a position that was created in House Bill 380 passed during the 2018 Utah Legislative session. DWS, OCC conducted interviews with researchers and made a recommendation to the Speaker of the House, who will be responsible to appoint a Board member to serve in this capacity.</p> <p>d) MOU</p> <p>Nune Phillips opened up a discussion with members of the Board to consider the value of a non-monetary Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DWS, OCC and the Utah School Readiness Board to streamline decision making so that DWS, OCC can carry out the directives and decisions made by the Board. This could include giving DWS, OCC authority as the fiscal entity to sign contracts to fund programs upon approval by the Board.</p> <p>The Board agreed with the idea to streamline processes but noted some reservations, such as a potential public perception issue and the legislatively-mandated need for the Board to fulfill their responsibilities.</p> <p>e) Logo</p> <p>The Board was presented with four draft logo options for official use by this governing body.</p>	<p>The Board asked DWS, OCC to draft an MOU taking their concerns into account. The draft language will be reviewed by the Board at an upcoming meeting.</p> <p>The Board also asked DWS, OCC to draft an Electronic Meetings Resolution so that the Board can be convened via teleconference call.</p> <p>The Board requested that DWS, OCC create an online poll so members can vote on their preferred logo.</p>
Adjournment		<p>Steve Crandall motioned to adjourn the meeting. Gavin Reese seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned.</p>